

PATENT 4450-0137P

THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

DEGRANGE, Jr., James E. Conf.:

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3148

Appl. No.:

09/777,774

Group:

2633

Filed:

February 6, 2001

Examiner: PAYNE, David C.

For:

POWER BALANCED OPTICAL ADD/DROP

MULTIPLEXER AND BALANCING METHODS

THEREFORE

RECEIVED

FEB 1 8 2004

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 13, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 14, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes Claim Set As Amended; and Remarks.